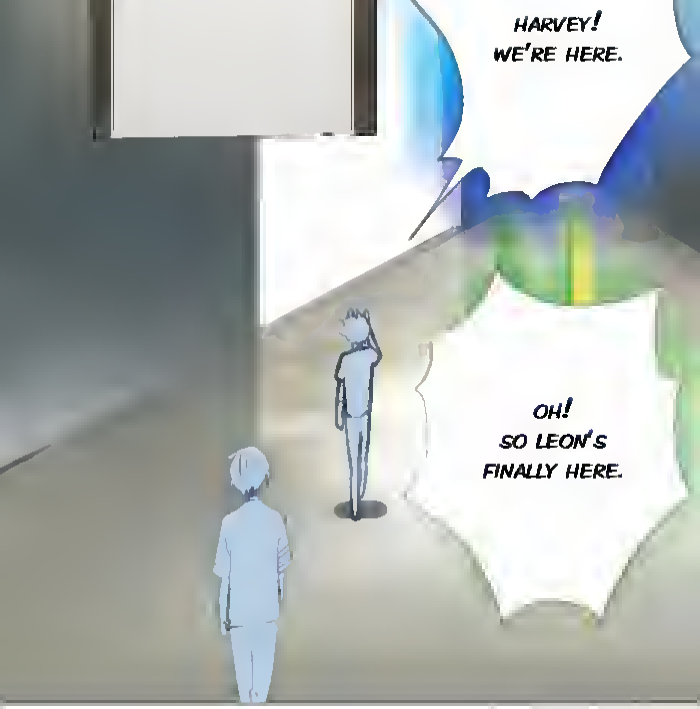
catharsis

By Ahmki

ping!
OPEN--


HARVEY!
WE'RE HERE.
OH!
SO LEON'S
FINALLY HERE.

THE TRAINING ROOM.

WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME! I WAS GETTING SO BORED WAITING AROUND.

LEEEEEOOOON!

GRIND
GRIND
CHOKE
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE LAST SEEN YOU!!

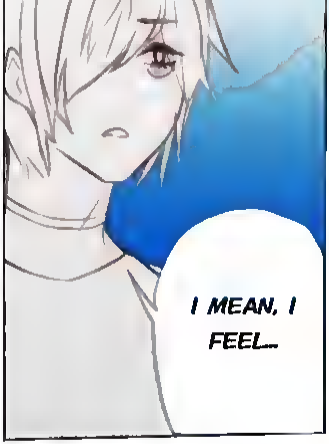
OHH! I SEE YOU HAVEN'T CUT YOUR HAIR YET EITHER! WANNA GET IT CUT TOGETHER?
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?! DID YOU MISS ME?!
GOOD! WE CAN FINALLY GET STARTED NOW.
SHION, START PREPARING.
WE NEED TO GET THIS OVER WITH BEFORE THE NIGHT ENDS.

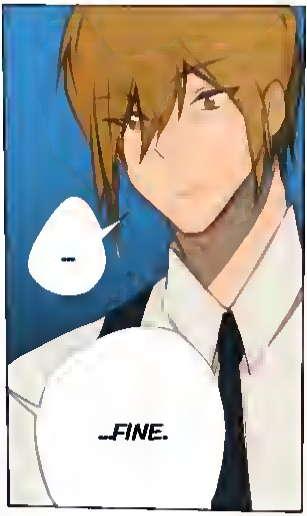
...W....A..IT.....
WHY IS SHION HERE?...
WHY?
TO HELP HARVEY OUT WITH YOUR DEFAECO OF COURSE!

WAIT, WHAT?
HERE'S YOUR SWORD.
THANKS

I THOUGHT YOU SAID I WAS GOING TO TAKE SOME SORT OF ASSESSMENT TEST.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY MY DEFAECO?


I MEAN, I FEEL...


...
...FINE.

WELL.

IT TECHNICALLY IS A TEST TO ASSESS YOUR CURRENT STATE.

REMEMBER.

YOU WERE INDUCTED

INTO CATHARSIS BY UNCONVENTIONAL MEANS.
THAT MEANT THAT YOU WERE PUT AT A DISADVANTAGE BECAUSE YOU LACKED AN ESSENTIAL TOOL TO HELP PROTECT YOU BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.

That tool, being your fortitude.

When I first had Shion and Hiro help teach you, it was to help strengthen you for what you lacked.

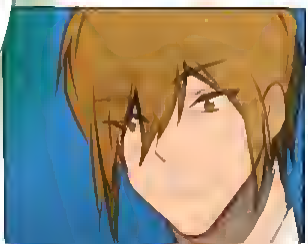
AS AN AGENT WHO NEVER WENT THROUGH HIS OWN CATHARSIS. I NEEDED TO PREPARE YOU IN SOME WAY TO COMPENSATE FOR NOT HAVING THAT TOOL.

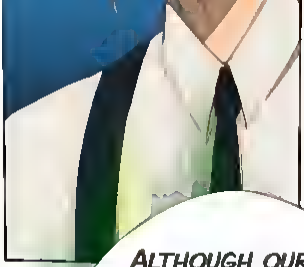
SHION AND HIRO'S TEACHINGS—

THOSE RUNES YOU WEAR AROUND YOUR NECK...

AND YOUR MYSTERIOUS ABILITIES...

--ALL CAN'T SURMOUNT TO THE POWER THAT YOUR OWN FORTITUDE COULD PROVIDE.





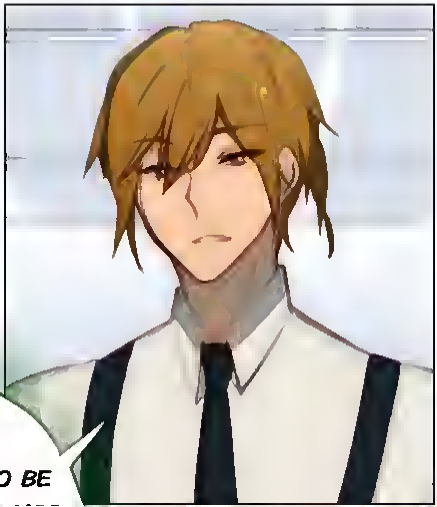
ALTHOUGH OUR TRAINING DID PROVE SUCCESSFUL, I FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY BECAUSE OF WHAT I MAY HAVE TRIGGERED FROM INSIDE YOU.

FROM PARIS'S REPORTS, (AND FROM WHAT I CAN SEE RIGHT NOW), YOUR DIMINISHING HEALTH IS PROOF THAT YOU MAY BE IN DANGER.

--AND YOU'VE TECHNICALLY BEEN

ON "VACATION"
THIS ENTIRE TIME.

TRIGGERED WHAT?



I'M GOING TO BE

STRAIGHTFORWARD WITH YOU, SO LISTEN WITH A CALM DEMEANOR.

We're going to perform a defaeco on you right now, to see if you can obtain fortitude for yourself, and to stop whatever is draining you of your health.
More specifically, to see if that girl you brought with you into Anna's veil is the source.